TIMES-VIRGINIAN

JOB WORK A SPECIALTY — DEVOTED TO THE LOCAL AND INDUSTRIAL INTERESTS OF APPOMATTOX AND BUCKINGHAM COUNTIES. — JOB WORK A SPECIALTY

VOL. XXXIV. NO. 14. — APPOMATTOX, VIRGINIA. APRIL 6, 1921. — $1.50 PER ANNUM IN ADVANCE

MAN FALLS 16 STORIES; APPARENTLY ESCAPES ANY INJURY.

New York.—Peter Bildere, a carpenter, fell 16 stories down the elevator shaft of a Broadway skyscraper and lived.

Slipping from a scaffolding, he clutched an elevator cable and slid several floors before the burning of his hands forced him to let go. Then he hit a plank protruding into the shaft and, this breaking his fall somewhat, he landed at the bottom still conscious.

He was taken to a hospital to ascertain if he had been hurt.

COL. HARVEY NAMED AS AMBASSADOR

Will Represent United States at Court of St. James

BROWN NOT TO GO TO JAPAN

Herrick May Go To Paris—Noted Ohioan Held The Post Of Ambassador To France Under President Taft.

Washington.—President Harding has definitely decided to nominate Col. George Harvey, editor of Harvey's Weekly, as Ambassador to Great Britain. His name, together with other diplomatic nominations not yet fully determined upon, will be sent to the Senate when it convenes in extra session April 11. This was made known officially by the President at the White House.

Myron T. Herrick, of Ohio, former Ambassador to France under President Taft, is likely to be named again for that post. While nothing official was disclosed regarding the President's intention to nominate Mr. Herrick as ambassador, it is intimated that such a course is likely.

The President set at rest the report that Walker Brown, of Toledo, O., would be selected as ambassador to Japan. It is understood that Mr. Brown does not want to leave the United States. He has been mentioned for several important Federal positions in Washington, but nothing definite is known of the President's intentions in this respect.

Colonel Harvey conferred with President Harding and will later confer with Secretary of State Hughes on the various matters pending between this country and Great Britain and questions which are likely to arise in the future. The time of his departure for London is not known, but it will probably be early in May.

It has been known for several weeks that President Harding was considering the appointment of Colonel Harvey to the London ambassadorship, but considerable opposition to the selection developed and the delay in the official announcement gave rise to the report that Great Britain had not signified her acceptance of Mr. Harvey in this capacity. It became known that a favorable reply had been received from the British Foreign Office.

Before the President made the customary inquiry of Great Britain regarding the naming of Colonel Harvey, he caused a poll to be made of the members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to learn whether that committee was favorable to his confirmation. The result of this poll was satisfactory and there is not expected to be any important opposition to his confirmation in the Senate.

MAKES OFFER TO GEDDES.

Chairman Wood Would Send Committee To Ireland.

New York.—L. Hollingsworth Wood, a New York lawyer, chairman of the commission appointed by the Committee of One Hundred Investigating the Irish Question, whose findings were characterized as "ex-parte, misleading and biased" by the British Embassy wrote to Sir Auckland Geddes in Washington offering to give the British Government's side of the case.

He expressed willingness to send "a subcommittee to England and Ireland to report the facts in order that on the basis of them, public opinion may compel an end to a situation which is a disgrace to our civilization."

TO GIVE "PASSION PLAY" IN '22

Oberammergau Decides To Resume Famous Spectacle.

Oberammergau, Bavaria.—The village elders of Oberammergau voted to enact the Passion Play in 1922. The last presentation was given in 1910. The peasants, who portray the sufferings and death of Jesus in fulfillment of a vow made in 1634 to present the Passion Play every 10 years as an expression of gratitude for having been spared from a plague, were unable to enact it in 1920 because of the havoc of war among the performers and musicians.

DETROIT PRIEST ASSASSINATED.

Called To Doorway Of Rectory And Shot Down.

Detroit.—The Rev. Leo Jarecki, pastor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, at Wyandotte, a suburb, was shot and killed when called to the doorway of his rectory. The priest's assailant escaped in an automobile. The Sheriff's office, it was said, had uncovered no clue to the identity of the person who fired the shot or to a motive for the act.

JAPS ACTIVITY UNDER PROBE

Recent Military Action in Siberia Regarded With Suspicion

28,500 JAPS ARE THERE

Protest May Be Entered—Dispatch Of Additional Troops Indicates Plan For Permanent Occupation.

Washington.—Japan's military aims in Siberia are under scrutiny of the United States.

Latest Japanese operations, it is understood, have caused Secretary of State Hughes to start an investigation of the entire question of Japan's continued military occupation of Siberia and of the northern half of Sakhalin island, which belongs to Russia.

A note to Japan protesting against prolonged occupation of Russian territory and suggesting withdrawal of the Japanese forces may result from the present study it is suggested in some quarters here. Such a note would point out that Japan has violated the agreement that American and Allied forces were to remain in Siberia until the Czecho-Slovak troops were evacuated. The American troops were withdrawn more than a year ago, and the Mikado's troops are the only ones remaining.

Two recent developments in this situation are believed to have precipitated the State Department investigation.

1. Japan's official announcement that troops are being sent to the mainland of Siberia, just opposite Sakhalin island, Nikolaievsk and Sofisk being among the points to be occupied.

2. According to official reports to Washington, Japan is now sending fresh troops to replace the present force in Siberia and circumstances of this replacement have led military observers here to believe that the present Siberian force will not actually be withdrawn, but will simply be reinforced by the "replacement" troops.

War Department estimates of March 16 place the total number of Japanese troops in Siberia and Manchuria at about 28,500.

The reported action of Japan in sending a battleship and four destroyers to protect Japanese fisheries on the coast of Kamchatka also is being watched. The sending of the war vessels followed unsatisfactory replies from the Government of the Far Eastern Republic at Chita to Japan's demand that the fishery concessions granted by the old Russian Government in 1907 be renewed with extensions.

NEGRO CALLED TO PRESIDE.

First Time In History Of New Jersey Legislature.

Trenton, N. J.—For the first time in the history of New Jersey, a negro occupied the chair of speaker of the House of Assembly. The honor was accorded to Assemblyman Walter G. Alexander, of Newark, a member of the Essex delegation, by Speaker Geo. S. Hobart. The latter was called to attend a National Guard investigation and appointed the negro assemblyman in his place.

Dr. Alexander is a practicing physician. A resolution expressing the respect of the House of Assembly for his ability as a legislator, offered by Warren Patten Conn, a minister and a fellow Assemblyman from Essex county, was adopted unanimously.

Dr. Alexander is the first of his race to be elected to the New Jersey Legislature.

FORM 48-HOUR LEAGUE.

Employing Printers Pledged Not To Accede To Shorter Week.

Cincinnati, O.—One hundred and seventy delegates, representing 5,034 book and job printing shops from all sections of the country, here organized the Forty-eight Hour League of America—a national organization of employing printing, operating both closed and open shops.

Resolutions were passed unanimously pledging that all shops represented by the association absolutely refuse to accede to any demand from any labor union, at any time, to operate their shops on the basis of a work week of less than 48 hours.

ACCUSED OF POISONING CHILDREN.

Kentucky Woman Held Following Death Of Girl.

Fleming, Ky.—Mrs. Palmyra Mullins, a widow of Beefhide Creek, near here, has been lodged in der in connection with poisoning of her three children. Mrs. Mullins is alleged to have obtained poison from a drug store stating that she intended to poison a dog. The poison it is charged was administered in food to the children.

SOVIET THREATENS FRANCE.

Will Take Steps Unless Russian Prisoners Are Released.

Moscow.—A note has been addressed to the French Government by M. Chitcherin, the foreign secretary, protesting against the detention of 25,000 Russian prisoners in France and others in North Africa and in the Balkans. The note declares that if the Soviet demands are not complied with the Russian Government will take suitable steps.

STRIKING FEATURES OF RAILROAD CRISIS.

President Harding conferred with Cabinet and railroad experts to find a way to avoid necessity of reversion to government control threatened by impending crisis.

Necessity of reducing freight rates to encourage business and to cut wages is regarded as absolute.

Feared that unless relief is given 50 per cent. of the railroads will go into the hands of receivers.

President Willard, of the Baltimore and Ohio, and Chairman Clark of the Interstate Commerce Commission advocate consolidations of the railroads of the country into a limited number of systems.

At a conference of Pennsylvania Railroad executives and representatives of employees in Pittsburgh the 35,000 maintenance of way and structures and unskilled forces refused to accept a wage reduction of from 16 to 25 per cent. and the question now goes to the Labor Board.

VIVIANI SEEKS SUPPORT OF U. S.

French Envoy Has Preliminary Conference With Harding

TO FURTHER FRIENDSHIP

Fears Separate Peace—Would Avert Encouragement Of Germany To Balk On Indemnity.

Washington.—France has formally offered to co-operate with the United States in bringing about a stable world peace.

This was the burden of the message brought by Rene Viviani, special envoy extraordinary to this country, in his initial conference with President Harding and Secretary of State Hughes.

Although no official information regarding the conversations which took place between the President, the Secretary of State and the former French Premier was obtainable, it became known that the immediate purpose of M. Viviani's visit is to seek the assistance of this country in obtaining guarantees against future aggression by Germany and especially the moral support of the Washington administration for the Allied effort to enforce the reparations agreement upon the German Government.

France is not seeking through M. Viviani to draw the United States unwillingly into the League of Nations, but will accept some other basis of peace, if the United States insists upon it.

President Harding authorized the following statement after they had left the White House:

"M. Viviani called to pay the compliments and utter the good wishes of the President of France to the President. He was accompanied by the French Ambassador. M. Viviani emphasized the desire of France to continue the friendship between the two republics and expressed gratitude to America for the great things done since his previous visit."

Only the bare outlines of the arrangements which France wishes to make with this country were suggested at the initial conferences. They are to be elaborated at further conferences with Secretary of State Hughes. But it is possible to give an accurate survey of the motives actuating the French Government in sending M. Viviani here.

The French are extremely fearful of a separate peace between this country and Germany. They look upon such an event with grave concern. They realize, however, that peace between the two countries must come, and that if an arrangement is not made in which France and the United States can work in harmony separate peace is certain.

They believe such a peace would give great encouragement to Germany and render the collection of French reparations infinitely more difficult.

MET DEATH IN MINE.

Bodies Of Seven Men Are Taken From Illinois Pit.

Dowell, Ill.—The bodies of seven men, entombed in the Kathleen mine here when fire broke out February 23, were recovered by rescue crews. The bodies were not burned and death apparently was caused by smoke. The bodies were found within 20 feet of where the men had been working.

GERMANY PROTESTS AGAIN.

Objects To Continued Occupation By Allied Troops.

Geneva.—The League of Nations has received a second protest from Germany calling attention to the continued occupancy by Allied troops of German territory. The note expresses the hope that Articles 12 and 17 of the peace pact will be applied according to the preceding note of March 10.

G. O. P. CAUCUS DATE SET.

Washington.—Republican members of the new House will hold their organization caucus Saturday afternoon, April 9, two days before the opening of the special session of Congress, it was announced by Representative Mondell, of Wyoming, majority leader.

Selections of chairmen and Republican members on committees as recommended by the committee on committees are expected to be confirmed at that time.

RAIL CRISIS UP WITH CABINET

Problems of Transportation System Discussed

NEED OF ECONOMIES SEEN

Warfield To Be Called In—Baltimorean's Proposal To Reduce Expense To Be Considered.

Washington. — President Harding and his Cabinet have determined to tackle the intricate railroad problem now facing the country and to find a solution for the benefit of the entire people and, particularly, the producers of the country, as an absolute essential of normal peace-time business and prosperity in the United States.

The railroad problem was the chief topic of discussion at the Cabinet meeting Tuesday. After the meeting President Harding made it known that he would call to conference with him Chairman Clark and other members of the Interstate Commerce Commission and the chairman and members of the Railroad Labor Board. President Rea, of the Pennsylvania Railroad, and Senator Penrose, of Pennsylvania, have already conferred with the Executive on the railroad problem, and it is likely that others interested in the railroads will be called to the White House for their views.

No plan of action or of solution of the problem has yet crystalized, so far as the Government is concerned, but the President and his advisers are thoroughly convinced that something must be done to save the nation from another transportation crisis and the commerce and industry of the country from a slow paralysis that is apparently resulting from the railroad financial and economic situation.

At present traffic or sufficiency of transportation is not a problem, but the situation with regard to rates in its effect upon traffic is regarded as dangerous to prosperity and internal economic advancement. The railroads are not earning their salt in spite of the fact that rates are up on a level almost universally regarded as too high.

President Harding and his advisers regard the railroad problem as of the gravest concern to the farmers and producers of the country and to many of the basic industries, and, consequently, to the entire people. It has been suggested in many quarters that the falling off in railroad traffic is due to the fact that many commodities cannot move freely on the present level of rates, with other prices on the downward trend, and producers have bitterly protested that they could not market their products profitably on the present rate basis.

Government figures considered by the Cabinet show that the railroads are running $700,000,000 a year behind the earnings directed by the Esch-Cummins law and expected as a result of the rate advance of last August.

In the face of the situation the President and his advisers are agreed with Senator Cummins and others that rates are not only too high for the good of American business, but that in many instances they threaten the economic structure.

Because of a dearth of business at the present high rates there is no car shortage or other transportation difficulty at this time, but the railroads are under-equipped, and experts in and out of the Government service are looking for a repetition of such difficulties as car shortage and congestion when the heavy movement of the fall sets in and the crops begin to go to market.

ATTORNEY SHOOTS HIMSELF.

Stricken With Tuberculosis, He Decided On Suicide.

Charlottesville, Va.—R. Keesee Blakely, 25, a young attorney, who was football star at University of Virginia two years ago and was in charge of the U. S. kite balloonists station at Brest, France, for eight months during the World War, shot himself at his home in this city, and is at the point of death at the University Hospital.

Suffering with tuberculosis of the throat Blakely resigned his position with the Federal Reserve Board in Washington last month, and left for the Far West to live in the open. Unable to stand outdoor work he became despondent and returned to Virginia.

CHAMBERLAIN RE-ELECTED.

New House Leader Has No Opposition At Birmingham Polls.

Birmingham, England. — Austen Chamberlain, who recently was elected leader of the House of Commons, resigning the Chancellorship of the Exchequer and being appointed lord of the privy seal, was formally re-elected to Parliament from the west division of Birmingham.

TO ABOLISH CENSUS BUREAU.

Administration Said To Favor Merging All Statistical Work.

Washington.—Abolition of the Census Bureau and creation in its stead of a bureau of statistics which would handle all the nation's statistical work is being considered by the Administration as a part of the general plan for the reorganization of Government departments.

CABBAGE HEADS COULDN'T FOOL THIS COP.

New York.—Night zephyrs, flitting playfully about, wafted to the nostrils of a policeman the scent of pure Bourbon whisky.

Approaching a huckster's wagon that stood at the curbing a block away, the policeman found it loaded with cabbages. He debated; the odor persisted; he investigated.

Behind the cabbages he said he found 50 cases of bottled-in-bond whisky. Five men, the driver of the truck and four others who had met him, were arrested, charged with illegally transporting liquor.

TAX CASES WON BY GOVERNMENT

Interpretation of Word Income Sustained By Supreme Court

THREE UNANIMOUS DECISIONS

Many Millions Involved—Only Point Decided Against Officials Was One in Which Actual Loss Was Indicated.

Washington.—Three sweeping victories were won by the Government in the Supreme Court interpretation of the term "income" for the assessment of taxes under the income and excess profits act.

The court held that any grain derived from corporate securities, or corporate assets, and any increase in the value of a capital investment, when realized, is taxable as income. In each case the opinion was indorsed by the entire court.

Solicitor General Frierson, who was present to hear the opinions read, interpreted them as upholding in every particular the contentions of the government. He believed elimination of problems involved in cases decided would go far toward relieving the Treasury Department of the inconveniences it has suffered as a result of multi-angled tax litigation facing it for the past year, but it is supposed to run into hundred millions.

No estimate could be obtained as to the amount in dollars and cents affected by the court's action.

Thousands of individuals who had invested in securities prior to the World War and who, on the general period, had sold their holdings at great profit, were interested in the outcome.

It was common knowledge that the fear of being compelled to turn over the bulk of their profit to the government in the form of taxes prevented many "paper millionaires" from realizing on their holdings. Incidentally, many were wiped out in the slump which followed the signing of the Versailles peace treaty.

"The key case," selected by the court for decision, was the appeal brought by the Merchants' Loan and Trust Company as trustee of the estate of Arthur Ryerson, of Chicago, from decisions of Illinois courts upholding assessments levied by internal revenue officials upon profits realized through the sale of certain trust assets. Included in the trust fund were 9,500 shares of stock in Joseph T. Byerson & Son, a corporation, which were valued at $561,000 on March 1, 1913, but which were sold in 1917 for $1,280,000. Collection of a tax on the difference in value between March, 1913, and the date of sale, as income, was upheld by the court in the decision rendered.

The word "income" was defined by the Supreme Court in a case under the Corporation Excise Tax Act of 1909, Justice Clark said, as "a gain derived from capital, from labor or from both combined."

QUICKLY CRUSHED RED REVOLT.

20 Military Police Stopped It In Few Minutes.

Coblenz.—A Communist uprising occurred in the American bridgehead area, at Montabaur, six miles northeast of Ehrenbreitstein. A riot call was answered by the provost marshal and American military police were dispatched to Montabaur to restore order.

It took the 20 men of the American military police only a few minutes after their arrival at Montabaur to put down the disorders. They arrested the leader and confiscated a quantity of Communist literature. No further trouble is expected.

TO CONTINUE BALLOON HUNT.

Strong Northwest Wind Delays Search.

Pensacola, Fla.—Officials at the Naval Air Station said that although no trace of the missing naval balloon and five men, which left on a practice hop March 22, had been found, the search would be continued indefinitely.

FRANCE DROPS WRANGEL.

Supplies For Remnant Of Army Camped In Turkey Cease.

Paris.—The French Government, in accordance with the notice given several weeks ago to General Baron Wrangel, former anti-Bolshevik leader in South Russia, ceases to furnish provisions and other supplies for the remnant of General Wrangel's army encamped before Constantinople.

VIRGINIA NEWS IN SHORT ORDER

Latest Doings in Various Parts of the State

TOLD IN SHORT PARAGRAPHS

Lynchburg.—Local traveling salesmen are moving for the organization of the Virginia League of Travelers, the object of which is for the mutual benefits of traveling salesmen without an insurance benefit.

Bristol.—Bristol went "over the top" in the campaign for raising $150,000 to be used in erecting the King's Mountain Memorial Hospital. The total amount subscribed was $150,321, this includes subscriptions made by less than 1,500 people.

Norfolk.—Work of construction on Campostella bridge from Norfolk city into the county across the eastern branch of the Elizabeth River was begun by army engineers here. The job includes the placing of a 100-foot draw span in the bridge and will cost approximately $68,000 to complete.

Norfolk.—Philip Kern and R. T. Wickline, charged with stealing an automobile here and arrested a few days ago in Claremont, slipped out of two pairs of handcuffs and picked four locks on the Surry County jail, according to Claremont authorities, who called Norfolk police to hurry and get the men if they wanted them.

Lynchburg.—The speakers for the commencement exercises at Lynchburg College this year will all be students, excepting for the baccalaureate sermon. Miss Edith Lacey, Virginia, has been chosen salutatorian, and Paul Sine, of Frederick county, valedictorian. The graduating class this year will include eleven students.

Norfolk.—Resolutions adopted by the Chamber of Commerce of Norfolk thanking Colonel E. E. Holland, recent member of Congress from the second district for the good work he did in legislative way, while in Congress, for this city and vicinity, will be presented to Mr. Holland by a committee from the chamber within the next few days.

Norfolk.—The death of Lawrence Gaston Summer, of this city, at Blacksburg disclosed the fact that he had secretly married Dorothy Elizabeth Hawkes, of Lockhaven, at Elizabeth City, N. C., on December 24, last. Knowledge that Miss Hawkes was the wife of young Summer, who was a student at V. P. I., came when she fainted on receipt of the news of his death as a result of being accidentally struck on the head with a baseball bat.

Danville.—The local draft board has received a series of confidential papers from the Government and is engaged in making revised lists of those who failed to do their full duty during the war. It was said that no lists of draft dodgers will be made public locally, but that after the present task has been completed, all of the papers will be returned to the War Department and the lists will be made public from that point.

Norfolk.—Child welfare charity and prison reform workers from all parts of Virginia will meet here April 10 at the Community House of the Epworth Methodist Church. The entire faculty of the Richmond School of Social Workers will attend the conference and will conduct classes daily except Sunday, the opening day of the conference. On that date also, the pulpits of nearly all the churches in Norfolk will be filled by these teachers and workers.

Norfolk.—Announcement was made that Joseph H. Young, president of the Norfolk-Southern Railway, has accepted the presidency of the Denver and Rio Grande Railway. Mr. Young was elected head of the Western road some months ago, but he declined to accept the place until the recent sale of the Denver and Rio Grande by receivers and reorganization had been confirmed by the Federal courts. Such confirmation has been reported in railway circles here.

Norfolk.—Firemen could not dance "jazz" dances at their ball in the armory here. City officials wouldn't let them. An elaborate program of modern dances had been arranged by the local firemen's beneficial association for the benefit of their relief fund and the ball was to be a merry affair, with most of dancers in masks. The city authorities said the program would have to be modified so 300 couples merely waltzed, two-stepped, and fox-trotted around the army floor.

Charlottesville.—R. Keesee Blakey, aged 25, attorney, football star at University of Virginia two years ago and in charge of the United States kite balloonist station at Brest, France, for eight months, during the World War, shot himself at his home in this city. He was taken to the University Hospital, where he died at 10:40 o'clock.

Charlottesville.—H. G. Boyce, father of Mrs. S. Jeter Robinson, of this city, died at his home at Myndus, Nelson county.

GIVES SITE FOR HOSPITAL.

Mahlon N. Haines Offers York Five-Acre Tract.

York, Pa.—Mahlon N. Haines, of this city offered to give the directors of the York Hospital a five-acre tract of land on which to erect a new hospital building with the $200,000 bequeathed for this purpose by the late Dr. James A. Dale. There are no strings attached to the offer. The proposed site is two miles east of the city.

STATE CAPITAL

Deficit Is Small In Budget Plan.

Richmond.—When the current fiscal biennium of thirty State institutions comes to a close on March 1, 1922, there will be a net deficit of less than 1½ per cent. of their total available revenues of nearly $13,000,000, according to estimates made when the heads of these places met with Governor Davis in the hall of the House of Delegates.

Heads of these institutions and members of the boards of directors were high in their praise of the budget system, established by the present administration, which was responsible for there being a deficit for the operating period no larger than is almost negligible.

Heads of every State institution were present to answer roll call when the meeting was called to order by Governor Davis, and more than 150 members of the governing boards were in attendance.

In a brief address, the Governor explained why the meeting had been called, so that the actual result of the workings of the budget system could be checked up, and then called for a financial statement from each institution.

Reports from fourteen institutions showed that at the end of the first fiscal year there was a total balance on hand of over $148,000, while fourteen others reported that their net deficit for the period was less than $244,000, or an actual net deficit of all of the institutions taken together of $96,000.

It was estimated that the total net deficit at the end of the biennium would be about $200,000, or 1½ per cent. of the total available revenue.

Discussion of the centralized State purchasing system, which is highly thought of by the institution heads, use of products made at the shops in the State Penitentiary, the hospitals for the insane and the deaf and blind schools by other institutions, development of the institutional farms and the improvement of farming operations through a closer co-operation with and broader use of the facilities of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute, as well as institutional methods of accounting and bookkeeping, were among the subjects discussed at the meeting.

Nearly everyone who attended the conference had something to say in praise of the budget system, as members of the Governor's advisory board on this subject sat with him during the conference.

During the fall these institutions will prepare a list of their needs for the coming biennium, and will present them to the Governor for inclusion in his budget to be presented to the General Assembly next year.

Will Form Guard Division.

In order to complete the final units of the Virginia National Guard based on a ratio of 800 men per Senator and Representative in Congress, and under the plan required by law, which is to be distributed over a five-year period beginning July 1, 1919, orders have been issued by Adjutant-General Jo Lane Stern authorizing the formation of such organizations as will complete a dvision in the State.

Due to the lack of available funds it has been impossible to complete the organization of the State division but it is expected that after June 30, there will be sufficient money to form these organizations.

Redistricting Plan.

Numerous suggestions for changes in the proposed new grouping of the counties in the State for representation in the General Assembly were made when the committee appointed by Governor Davis to consider redistricting the Commonwealth met in the Capitol.

The meeting was open to the public, and a total of fifteen changes in the tentative plan were suggested, mostly by members of the Legislature, nine of them affecting the Senate and six the House.

Regrouping of counties whose interests are similar was the chief wish of those who appeared before the committee. This was especially true of those counties lying in the western part of the State, where one part of the district is on one side of the mountains and the other part across the ridge.

Lynchburg.—Fifteen white men were indicted at Houston charged with being implicated in the mob the night of March 20, which attempted to break into the jail and seize Jim Coleman negro.

Monument To Governor Spotswood.

Plans were made by the Colonial Dames of Virginia to erect a monument in honor of Governor Spotswood a famous Virginia Governor in Colonial days. The exact sum of money to be used in purchasing this monument was not definitely decided upon, although arrangements were made for the location, which will be at the head of Swift-Run Gap, where the Colonial Governor and his brave "Horse-Shoe Knights" first sighted the fertile plains

279 Persons Burned Last Year.

Two hundred and seventy-nine Virginians met accidental death last year through burning, according to figures which have just been compiled by the Bureau of Vital Statistics.

Of this number, 150 were white and 129 colored, an unusually large number of the latter, though the total is about the average for the last ten years.

In Richmond alone there were 26 such deaths, 11 being white and nine colored.

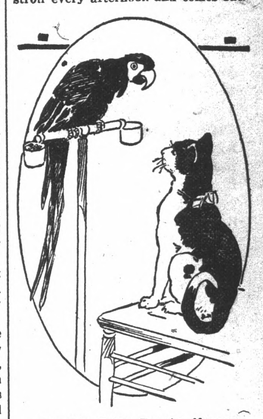
MILWAUKEE HAS TALKING PUSSY

Says Mamma in Perfect English as Result of Teaching by Parrot.

Milwaukee.—"Mamma, mamma," is the cry heard about supper time at the home of Mrs. Zabel and her daughter, Agnes. No, they haven't a baby and it is only Milwaukee's talking cat. Mrs. Zabel calls him Mousy and Mousy's sister by the name of Pussy. Besides the two cats, Mrs. Zabel owns a parrot. Polly is sixteen years old and oh how she can talk.

When Mousy wants to get in the house, he calls to Mrs. Zabel with his sweet feline voice and says, "mamma, mamma." Believe it or not, just as you wish, the reporter heard, with his own ears, Mousy talk, and a reporter's ears are usually pretty sharp.

Mrs. Zabel says she didn't train Mousy to talk and that he just picked the art up somewhere. According to Mrs. Zabel, her pet goes out for a stroll every afternoon and comes back



Possibly Polly Taught Mousy.

just in time for supper. In fact, when the reporter and photographer arrived, Mousy was out for his walk and Mrs. Zabel spent fully ten minutes before she located the cat in a neighbor's back yard in the next block, prowling around looking for goodness knows what.

Mousy is a good little cat and posed for the photographer like a regular person would in his best "Sunday go to meetin' suit." Ha, ha—the reporter struck a clue. Polly can talk. Now wouldn't it be possible for Polly to teach Mousy the English language? Scientists say that animals communicate with each other. Of course Polly is classed as a bird, but what care we for that. Yes, Polly can say "mamma" and, between you and me, just a few other things which wouldn't look well in print. As we said before, Mousy is a good cat and perhaps she chooses her language a little more carefully than Polly.

Mrs. Zabel is a native of Norway and has just returned from a trip lasting four months to her home town in Norway. Polly, Pussy and Mousy stayed home and took care of the house.

PLOTTED TO KILL HUSBAND

Bride of Eight Months Forgiven by Intended Victim, Who Also Furnished Bail.

Philadelphia.—Mrs. Edna Murphy, nineteen years old, a bride of eight months, has been indicted by the grand jury on a charge of "feloniously soliciting Charles Colliton to secure some one to shoot and kill her husband, George Murphy."

Mrs. Murphy, it is alleged, paid $75 to a supposed gunman named "Paddy the Thug," impersonated by William Belshaw, head of the Philadelphia police "murder squad," instructing him to shoot her husband. The young wife wanted to collect her husband's insurance and elope with another man.

Subsequent to Mrs. Murphy's arrest, her husband forgave her and furnished $3,000 bail, under which she was freed.

Woman's Trance Broken by Long Talking Vigil

Following fifteen days of sleep, Mrs. Lucy Lacaprin of Scranton, Pa., was awakened, after 11 days of "talk cure." Neighbors said the talking is what revived her. The woman remained awake for some time after being aroused, and physicians said she probably would recover.

Eleven days before she was aroused from her trance, women of the neighborhood began a talking vigil at the bedside, and kept it up constantly by shifts.

Mob Prayed for Captive.

Clyde, Ga.—Negroes who came here to shoot remained to pray at their prisoner's cell. That ended plans for a lynching, and Israel Waters, negro, charged with having molested a school-girl of his own race and captured by a posse of negro and white residents, went to jail instead. The whites turned Waters over to the negroes for punishment after his capture.

Fire Killed Three Smallpox Sufferers.

Warren, O.—When fire destroyed a shack in which they were living because of smallpox quarantine, Adna Chaffee, 26 years old, Howard Smith, 11, and Henry Smith, 13, were suffocated.

Electrified Mud Fatal to Rider.

Greenville, S. C.—Mud, heavily charged with electricity, on a city street in Greenville, S. C., caused the instant death of a horse and its rider, George Craft, 65 years old.